

16.01.2017

Dear colleagues,

Best wishes for 2017!

An intensive year 2016 is over and TTL is now operating for 12 years while it is now my 17th year affiliated to Technische Universität Wien. Thank you for your interest and support. TTL was dealing with following projects:

1) Innovations in Snow

Snow and snow research is since many years a most important field of occupation. But the interest is shifting from solely explaining the state of ski resorts in an era of climate change and climate adaptation to find innovations to solve problems.

Six years after filing a patent on the artificial cloud with dendritic snow production, the patent received in 2015 was awarded the Austrian "Staatspreis Patent" or state prize patent

http://ttl.tuwien.ac.at/161109/161109_staatspreis_fotos.pdf . We had meetings with Finnish and Swedish

colleagues on how to go forward with our research <http://ttl.tuwien.ac.at/lapland/pitea> and

<http://ttl.tuwien.ac.at/lapland/jukkasjaervi> . In addition we can build on a firm established network and hope for further progress in this field. A future aim is to establish fundamental snow research lab at TU Wien.

2) Value Chains of Tourism, Economic Shocks and Natural Disasters in Southeast Asia

Since 2009 I spend part of my time in Southeast Asia, a region in many ways a contrast to European development. The economic gap is narrowing while the environment seems to be under much higher pressure in this world region than in Europe. Due to a cooperation with ERIA, the Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and Asian countries, I was travelling twice to Indonesia for various project workshops in Jakarta and Nusa Dua, Bali.

In addition I was lecturing and at project exchange meetings at Veteran University in Yogyakarta

<http://ttl.tuwien.ac.at/malang/160401/> and at IBP Bogor <http://ttl.tuwien.ac.at/bogor/160415a/> . I could visit some

outstanding tourist places <http://ttl.tuwien.ac.at/malang/160407/> , and was part of a mangrove reforestation action <http://ttl.tuwien.ac.at/malang/160409/>

3) Conference " Vulnerability of Agricultural Production Networks and Global Food Value Chains due to Natural Disasters" in Vienna, June 20th to June 24th, 2016

With ERIA as partner from Indonesia and with the support of OECD research programme on biological resources in agriculture we organized an international conference in Vienna to show the impact of disasters and extreme events on agricultural production networks and food value chains

http://ttl.tuwien.ac.at/160621/program_june_2016.pdf . Participants from Asia, America and Europe brought

specific insights to the topic. A highlight away from the conference table was the excursion to the Wachau Cultural Landscape <http://breiling.org/events/1606/pics/160622/> .

4) Nature Near Construction and Settlements including Art Interventions in the Danube Delta

The Danube Delta is since 2000 a region which I have visited regularly – perhaps 30 times - in various context, mainly in connection with student courses and teaching. This is probably the poorest region within the European Union and a case study to learn why good intended landscape and regional planning are often not working in this special context.

With architect students we had a course in the Romanian Danube Delta on nature near construction <http://ttl.tuwien.ac.at/sfistofca/160208> and settlements <http://ttl.tuwien.ac.at/sfistofca/160209b/> . We

cooperated with various Romanian universities, Ion Mincu University of Architecture and Urbanism, University of Cluj-Napoca and National University of Fine Arts <http://timemaps.net/timemap/sfistofca/> . The involved partners are still enthusiastic and we hope to continue with more courses even in 2017. In addition I contributed to project proposals in line with the Integrated Territorial Investment of the Danube Delta.

5) Sustainable Tourism Destinations - Comparative Research in the Danube Region (Croatia and Austria)

The Danube Region as a European macro region continues to play an important role. This year we could start a comparative research between tourist destinations in the regions. Based on a cooperation agreement with the Faculty of Architecture in Zagreb <http://ttl.tuwien.ac.at/160929> and postdoc researcher Ana Mrda we could initiate a research on the comparative assessment of tourist destinations in the Danube Region, namely Wachau and Baranja. We use an EU DG Enterprise toolkid of sustainable tourism indicators to assess the degree of sustainability. First results were presented at TUWien <http://ttl.tuwien.ac.at/161201/prog.pdf>

